

RECKITT BENCKISER

Our ref: KC/SW/11345P5 WOw

5 August 2005

11/8

BY COURIER

European Patent Office
International Preliminary Examination Authority
PB 5818 Patentlaan 2
2280 HV RIJSWIJK (ZH)

Dear Sirs

Re: International Patent Application No. PCT/GB2004/004692
Reckitt Benckiser (Australia) Pty Limited

In response to the Written Opinion of the International Search Authority dated 26 May 2005, we hereby request International Preliminary Examination to be based upon the amended claims submitted herewith; a manuscript amended set of claims is also enclosed to assist the Examiner. In connection with this request a PCT Demand Form is enclosed together with the fee sheet.

In response to Item V.I in the Written Opinion, we respectfully disagree that all characteristics which are essential for achieving the inventive effect are not disclosed in all independent claims. All of the claims are directed to a cellulosic based substrate or matrix, an insect control device comprising the same, or method of the use of such articles, wherein the cellulosic based substrate or matrix is impregnated and/or dosed with an insecticidally effective amount of a vapour active pyrethroid which emanates into the environment at a rate of at least approximately 0.040 mg/h. We submit that this is not disclosed in any of the cited prior art and is therefore a novel technical feature common to all of the claims. As such, we submit that the claims are clear and relate to the one invention.

In response to item V.3 the claims, as filed herewith, have been amended so that they define carrier solvents having a boiling point range "at or above 120°C to below 300°C. Claims 23, 26, 30, 33, 35, 38, 50 and 54 have also been similarly amended. These amendments are fully supported by the Specification as filed and are discussed throughout the specification at, for example, page 23, wherein isoparaffins in the boiling point range of 150-300°C such as Isopar G and Isopar M are stated as being preferable.

We therefore believe that the claims as filed herewith are both novel and inventive.

We look forward to receipt of a favourable International Preliminary Examination Report in due course.

Yours faithfully


CAWDELL, Karen Teresa
Authorised Representative

Reckitt Benckiser plc

Reckitt Benckiser plc
Danson Lane, Hull HU8 7DS

Enc TEL: +44(0)1482 326151 FAX: +44(0)1482 582902/216876 www.reckittbenckiser.com

Registered in England no. 527217 Registered Office: 103-105 Bath Road, Slough, Berkshire SL1 3UH